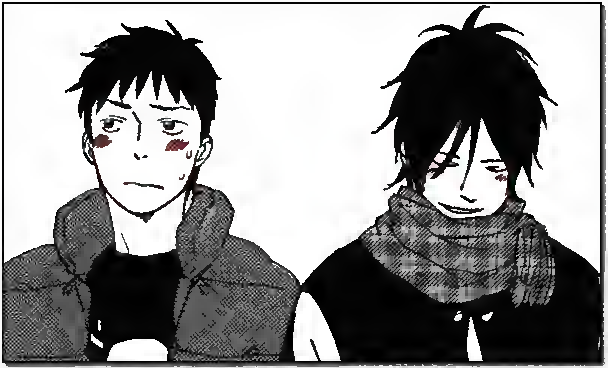

Sono Te kara Tsutawaru

(I can tell by your hand)

by Kyuugou / 9go

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sono te kara tsutawaru

(I CAN TELL BY YOUR HAND)
BY KYUUGOU

One time when we were kids, the two of us got lost.

I was so scared that I was bawling my eyes out, but you just wordlessly pulled me along by my hand as you tried your best to find the way back home.

All I could do was cry..

and put my trust
into the warmth
of your hand.

Now we're growing up,
I keep thinking about you.
One shot
A very sweet story ♥

COUSINS WHO'VE BEEN FRIENDS SINCE THEY WERE YOUNG...

THEY THOUGHT THEY'D BE TOGETHER FOREVER, BUT NOW THAT THEY'VE GOTTEN OLDER WILL THEIR PATHS TAKE THEM SEPARATE WAYS...?

I can tell by your hand

九號

Presented by Kyugo

HAPPY NEW YEEEEAR!!
sparkle
sparkle
sparkle
NEW YEEEEEAR!
OH, LOOK WHO IT IS! WELCOME, MAKOTO-CHAN AND AKIRA-CHAN!
THAAANK YOU!
OH, DO COME IN!
HONEY— YOUR BROTHER AND HIS KIDS ARE HERE!
THANKS FOR HAVING US!
Mwahaha!
SQUEEZE
HAPPY NEW YEAR, MAN!!
!!

Every New Year, the relatives from my father's side come over to our house.

Makoto's dad and my dad are brothers.

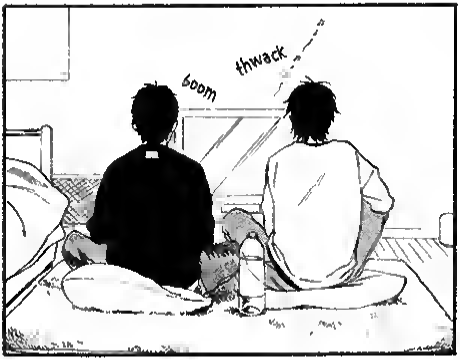
YOU REALLY DO MAKE THE BEST KELP ROLLS IN THE WORLD, AUNTIE!
REALLY? HEARING THAT MAKES ALL THE HARD WORK WORTHWHILE!
THE MASHED POTATOES TASTE GREAT, TOO!
WHEN YOU LIVELY YOUNG-STERS COME, IT FINALLY FEELS LIKE NEW YEAR'S HERE!

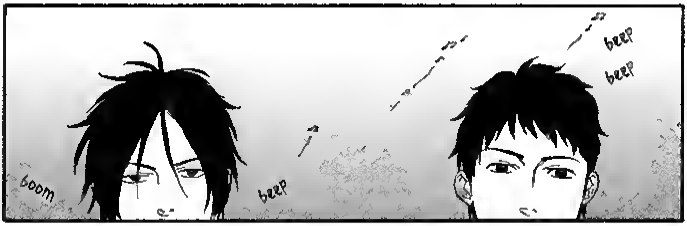
Which makes us cousins.

I HEARD YOU GOT ACCEPTED INTO K-UNI ON A SPORTS SCHOLARSHIP!
AH, YES! THAT'S RIGHT...
YOU'RE SO TALENTED!
OH, BUT
I DO IT BECAUSE I LIKE IT. IT'S BASKETBALL, AFTER ALL
STILL, THANKS FOR THE PRAISE!
So it's spring break! I'll be off to Tokyo, too!
Yup.
Aw, lucky Nii-Chan's off to Tokyo...
COMPARED TO THAT, OUR SHIN HERE
JUST LAZES AROUND ALL DAY. HE HASN'T EVEN JOINED ANY SCHOOL CLUBS!
SITTING AROUND WITH NO AIMS AND NO DIRECTION IN LIFE...
Oh here we go.
THAT'S NOT TRUE, UNCLE!
SHIN'S GOT HIS OWN PACE, YOU KNOW.
AND ANYWAY...

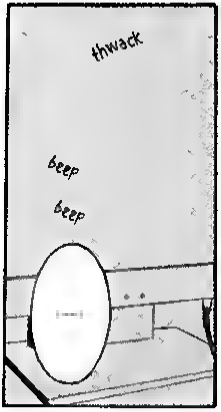
I've never been very good..
I CAN'T DENY THAT I WAS ALWAYS THE ONE THE LADIES WENT FOR WHEN WE WERE YOUNGER
That's right
MAKOTO! ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY YOUR UNCLE'S BETTER LOOKING THAN YOUR OWN FATHER!?
EH
MAKOTO JUST HAS A GOOD EYE FOR THESE THINGS, DON'T YOU BOY!
HE MUST HAVE GOTTEN THEM FROM YOU, UNCLE!
HE'S GOT THOSE DEVILISH GOOD LOOKS
SHIN'S THE ONE WHO'S MORE POPULAR WITH THE GIRLS AT SCHOOL!
Whaa?
WHAT WAS THAT!?
Grrr!
Ha ha ha
OH, YOU KNOW IT'S TRUE!
NOW NOW, YOU TWO
with these kinds of family celebrations.

knock knock
—HEY.
YO.
CHAN!
SHIIIN-
open
—HOW'S IT LOOKING DOWN-STAIRS?
AH, GEEZ... THEY'RE COMPLETELY WASTED
SO I ESCAPED.
HAHA, THEY NEVER CHANGE


boom
thwack


boom
beep
beep
beep

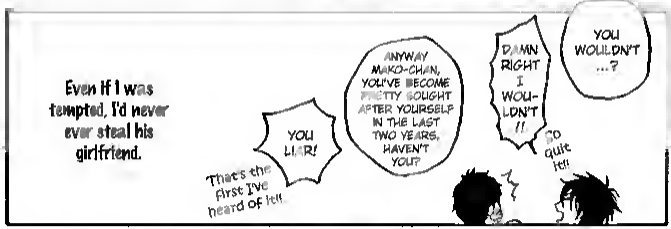
ABOUT TOKYO

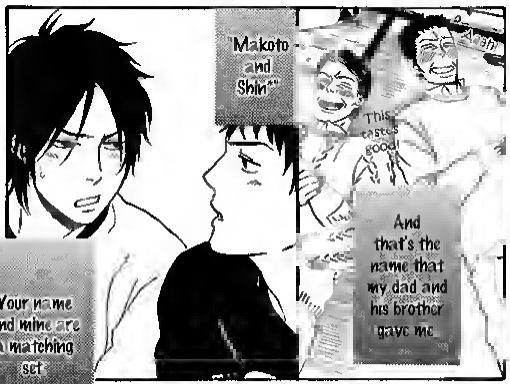

thwack
beep
beep

HMM?

I'LL COME VISIT SOMETIME.
SURE! ANYTIME!!
beep beep beep
thwack
ACK!
IF YOU GET A GIRLFRIEND, MAKE SURE TO INTRODUCE HER TO ME PROPERLY.
EH!?
CRAP.
beep
boom
beep beep
TAKE THIS!
ARGH...
EEH!?
WHAT?
IT
IT'S JUST

ANY WAY
I'D SERIOUSLY NEVER DO THAT...
HUH!?
WHAT THE HELL?
LIKE THAT WOULD EVER HAPPEN!!
Where's your ego, man!
WHAT WOULD I DO IF YOU SNATCHED HER AWAY...


Even if I was tempted, I'd never ever steal his girlfriend.
That's the first I've heard of it!!
YOU LIAR!
ANYWAY MAKO-CHAN, YOU'VE BECOME PRETTY SOUGHT AFTER YOURSELF IN THE LAST TWO YEARS, HAVEN'T YOU?
DAMN RIGHT I WOU-LDN'T !!
YOU WOULDN'T ...?
So quite it!


"Makoto and Shin"
This tastes good!
And that's the name that my dad and his brother gave me.
There's only one thing I really like about myself.
Your name and mine are a matching set.

*T/N: The names mean "faith" and "truth"

And now Mako-chan, who's been with me since I was born

is going far away.

T/N: Fortune Cards for New Year's that tell if your new year will be good or bad.

TO-KYO
IS IT...?
SHIN!
I GOT THE "GREAT FORTUNE" CARD!
HEY, GOOD FOR YOU.
SIGH
ISN'T IT, THOUGH?

IT'S REALLY BEEN A MILD WINTER THIS YEAR
...
flap
flap
flap
caw
caw
HEY, SHIN
DO YOU REMEMBER...?
AGES AGO...
WHEN THE TWO OF US GOT LOST...

YOU WERE CRYING LIKE A BABY AS I PULLED YOU ALONG—
UNTIL WE FINALLY ARRIVED AT THIS SHRINE
AND WE SAID "PLEASE LET US FIND OUR WAY HOME."
EVEN THOUGH THAT'S TOTALLY NOT THE KIND OF THING YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO PRAY FOR AT SHRINES
WE MADE IT HOME THOUGH, RIGHT?
I GUESS WE DID!

AND THE MOMENT WE ARRIVED HOME, YOU WERE THE ONE WHO BURST INTO TEARS, MAKO-CHAN.
GEH!!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO REMEMBER THAT PART!!
YOU WERE SO CUTE BACK THEN, MAKO-CHAN.
Hehe...
YOU HARDLY EVER CRIED AS A CHILD, SO
I WAS PRETTY SHOCKED TO SEE YOU LIKE THAT.
...THE HELL?
LIKE YOU'RE ONE TO TALK!
HEH.
SCUFF

LET'S...
HEY...
HOLD HANDS AGAIN
LIKE WE DID BACK THEN.

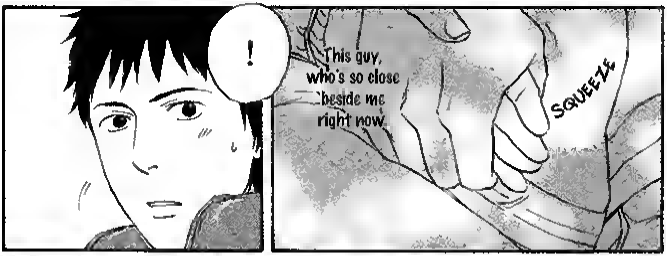
WHA...
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING AB-
COME ON.
HERE.
NO ONE'S AROUND TO SEE

rustle

IT'S REALLY WARM

...HEH.

Mako-chan's going far away.


!
This guy, who's so close beside me right now.
SQUEEZE

Still, no matter how hard it gets
.....
HEY.

I'll put my trust into this warmth of yours.

The End

afterword

KYUUGOU / 960

I STUFFED MYSELF WITH OSECHI*, SO I THOUGHT I'D WRITE A MANGA ABOUT NEW YEAR.

*T/N: Osechi is the Japanese food traditionally served at New Year. It's gorgeously presented and looks like this:

The photo is taken from
http://www.yu-netkita.com/katsyu/osechi/imgosechi/osechi061201m.jpg

The bold, the brave & the beautiful... Hard Bishounen are Good to find.

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Scanlating our Bishounen Addictions One by One.